

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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A SANE IMPERIALISM

The Colonial Secretary in the Asquith ministry is Earl Crewe. He seems to be winning much approbation by his public utterances on imperial questions which is all the more satisfactory because an impression has gone abroad that the Liberal party in England was not favorably disposed to that sentiment which has come to be known as Imperialism. During the last quarter of a century there has been an interesting development of the relations of the various parts of the Empire to each other. It first found expression in a demand for an Imperial Federation, which was urged upon the consideration of the British people by a few well-meaning but not very practical enthusiasts. These persons had very little use for those who did not see eye to eye with them. If one ventured to suggest that their scheme was ill-digested or that the people at large were not prepared to adopt any scheme at all, he was promptly denounced as disloyal, or at least as hopelessly ignorant. Lord Rosebery, while not committing himself to the projects of the Federationists, took considerable interest in the movement and was undoubtedly instrumental in directing the attention of the British people everywhere to the growing need for a closer connection between the various parts of the Empire. The efforts of the Federationists, although foredoomed to failure, were on the whole productive of good. They were the first step in a direction, which it seems to be the destiny of the British lands to advance. The door was demonstrated the essential unity of the Empire, and showed to the people of the United Kingdom that their brothers beyond seas were source of strength, not a cause of weakness. Mutual sacrifices form the strongest of all bonds, and the blood shed in South Africa undoubtedly cemented the Empire more firmly than ever. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain gave the Imperial idea a decided impetus. He coupled it with commercial considerations, and he has managed to convince a great many elderly people that unless the Empire is tied together by a common tariff it is sure to fall asunder. He was the first to see the inter-imperial trade preference, but for our own part decline to accept it as essential to imperial permanence. The British preference inaugurated by Canada, and adopted to some extent by other parts of the Empire, has had more of a sentimental effect upon the imperial consolidation than of actual commercial value, but it also was a step in the right direction.

Meanwhile the conception of the essential unity of British Dominions and a belief that the Empire must be maintained by its own strength and by themselves felt among British people. The developing sentiment is somewhat intangible, created by sympathy and impatience in the minds of those, who have not the wisdom to wait for the formative processes of time. When Lord Crewe at a banquet to Earl Dudley, the new Governor-General of Australia, spoke of the importance of a good understanding between the members of the British family, he displayed the right attitude of mind on this great question. There must be a right understanding between the Mother Country and her young and vigorous offspring. We must learn about each other; we must get to know each other's difficulties and aspirations. We must be informed of each other's possibilities; we must not ignore each other's responsibilities. When we have advanced farther along these lines than we have yet gone, we will begin to see our way clearer to closer unity than is now possible. The most striking thing about the British Empire is that it has grown. It has not been made. It was not born grown up. It must be permitted to grow in the future, and if that growth is to be healthy, it must be along the lines of least resistance. On the occasion when Lord Crewe used the above mentioned expression, Earl Dudley said that it would be idle for the people of the United Kingdom to shut their eyes to the fact that on many questions that might arise the point of view of people in different parts of the Empire might be different. He pleaded for cohesion, but cohesion with elasticity. Lord Curzon, who also spoke, argued for the development of a sense of mutual dependence and the construction of a partnership, which shall represent the free co-operation of equal and allied kingdoms.

This is a sane imperialism. It is a possible imperialism. It is in harmony with the history, the traditions and the genius of the British people. It is an imperialism that cannot be forced, and which, indeed, may be checked in its growth by political experiments.

MR. ASQUITH AND THE NAVY.
Premier Asquith informed the House of Commons, in reply to a question that the ministers had no knowledge, apart from unverified rumors, of discussions alleged to exist among senior naval officers. He added: "If, however, they find reason to believe that any state of things exists which is in any way detrimental to the discipline or smooth working of the Fleet, they will not hesitate to take prompt and effective action." After a few additional observations, Mr. Asquith said: "It must be repudiated emphatically the suggestion which it appears to convey. The direction of the naval policy of the country lies with the government of the day, and it is the business of naval officers on active service not to discuss or criticize the policy, but to carry it out with loyalty to their superiors, in harmony with one another, and with a single eye to the efficiency of the great service to which they belong." That closed the incident as far as the House of Commons was concerned, and the public references to the Prime Minister's answer have been wholly approving. It is recognized that the government cannot act upon mere rumors, and that while upon the surface things there is nothing to interfere with the harmonious working of the fleet, it would be very unwise to initiate an investigation with a better foundation for it. The facility with which rumors may be magnified out of all proportion to facts upon which they are based needs no demonstration. Meanwhile the Fleet is at sea and Lord Charles Beresford is in command. When the manoeuvres are ended we may anticipate that some action will be taken.

A POLITICAL STRAW.

The Vancouver World takes an attitude in respect to the forthcoming nomination of candidates in that institution for the House of Commons which is of passing interest. This is how it expresses itself: "It is to be noted that the answer does not depend altogether on the party conventions. The field is open, and if the parties of Vancouver, Vancouver may dispense with the parties."

British Columbians are growing tired of Liberals who object to better terms because the claim for better terms, if granted, would necessarily increase the prestige of the local Conservative government.

British Columbians are also getting tired of Conservatives who favor an "ice-cream" line from Halifax instead of an All-Red line, because the All-Red would help the federal leaders of the Liberal party.

If Mr. Sifton could kick over the traces on the question of the election lists and Colonel Hughes on the Ross rifle, so also should British Columbia members when the dominant east refuses justice to the west.

In a previous part of the same article it tells us that Vancouver wants men who are sound "on the Asiatic question; better terms for British Columbia, the Allied line and Vancouver a free port." The chief value of an utterance of this kind is that it shows the state of mind of the current. When a once strong party journal talks independence in this strain, there must be something going on beneath the surface of things, which the general public does not see.

GENTLEMEN IMMIGRANTS.
Mr. Brian Bellis has contributed to the Empire Review a paper upon Canada as a home for the class he calls "gentlemen immigrants." We all know what he means by this term, we may give his own definition. They are retired officers and others of limited income who are now vegetating in places like Bedford and Clifton. In many parts of Canada, and some of the free wheat farms have no interest for them. They are people of life when they have earned a little comfort. They wish to be surrounded by congenial society with a few of the country and a little sport and town, with its clubs and theatres. But, above all, they desire to educate their children as gentlemen, and to start them on an honorable and successful career. In many parts of Canada, a little capital and a fixed income of some \$2,000 or \$2,500 a year will go a long way toward providing these requirements.

Mr. Bellis assures such people that for a thousand pounds they can secure a comfortable home either in Eastern Canada or British Columbia, and he adds that with five hundred a year a man would have rather more money in his pocket at the end of the year than he would if he lived on the same scale in England. He proceeds to consider the disadvantages of living in Canada from the "gentlemen immigrant" point of view. There is, he says, there is a lack of congenial society, which he thinks could be avoided by the selection of residences in some of the cities. He seems to think that Canadian ideas of equality will not call them "sir," and they must expect to meet them socially. This is an aspect of the case which is difficult to get every one to appreciate, and yet it is one that has an important bearing upon the whole question. It is all very well to profess to ignore social distinctions, but in nine cases out of ten they are distinctions without any real differences. They may be largely unimportant in education, which develop different points of view. They may originate from a difference in character. Money, as a rule, has not much to do with them in this country. But what is the reason why some people are richer than others exist and they must be taken into account. We suppose that, fundamentally, the reason why some English people do not find their surroundings in Canada congenial is because they come from a lower social grade, and there is a more or less of social distinctions are taken for granted. They come to a country where such things are not found, and they miss them. Many a Canadian going to England finds himself at a disadvantage because he discovers there the very things which the "gentlemen immigrants" miss here. So does not seem to be anything that can be done to remedy this state of things. The "gentlemen immigrant" has advantages referred to are not vital, and if the "gentleman immigrant" and his wife would realize that after all social conditions are largely artificial, they may find just as much real happiness in the new land as in the old, and they will have the satisfaction of knowing that the slight sacrifice they may have to make in giving up their old life is well repaid by the advantages open to their children.

Mr. Bellis thinks that the "gentleman immigrant" ought to abandon all thought of making money on his small farm. We cannot agree with him, although much case depends upon the individual. Some men can adapt themselves to fruit-growing and dairying and carry it on very profitably, not to get rich of course, but so as to be able to add some to their income to their capital. This is a matter upon which no general advice can be given. The man, the woman and the place have all to be taken into account. Given a well-selected little ranch in a good locality, and a man and woman who can adapt themselves to the demands of a fruit farm, and there is no good reason why they cannot make money in a moderate way. The mistake many such immigrants make is that they are ill-advised at the beginning and endeavor to farm profitably a piece of land which no one could make money on. If a man comes to this country intending to farm, let him cultivate land sufficient to raise a little fruit and vegetables that he can sell to make money. If the latter is the object of the immigrant and he possesses any degree of adaptability he ought to have very little difficulty in accomplishing it.

IN OLD QUEBEC.
These days in old Quebec are full of interest. Out here on the Pacific coast we are removed by so many long miles from the scene of the pageantry and the demonstrations of patriotism, that our pulses are not much stirred by the incidents that are transpiring there. It is not because we are out of sympathy with them, but because to most of us Quebec is only a name. Few of us have ever walked through its classic streets or stood on

its battlements. Its history has not impressed itself upon us as the busy making of a new country that we do not take time to think much about the pioneer work done on the shores of the St. Lawrence three centuries ago. When we have time for a holiday, we go to the big cities of the United States or else Europe, and there is no use in denying it, we have not yet become sufficiently Canadianized to feel that the thrilling story of Quebec is our story. We are Canadian enough in other ways. We no longer speak of "going east to Canada." We recognize that our Dominion is one and indivisible, but we have not yet assimilated the traditions that cluster around the city, which claim plain founded. Yet few persons can have read the accounts of what is transpiring at the Ancient Capital without a feeling that the occasion is a notable one, and may be epoch-making.

What does it all mean? Why is the Her Majesty? Why are representatives of the United States and France? Why have the warships of three great nations met together to join in common salutes? Why is this done? The answer is simple. It is a salute to the memory of the hero who built a house and began to plan a city. There must be something more than this. May we not venture to think that the celebration is less in commemoration of the deed of Champlain than in recognition of the place of Canada among the nations? British, France and the United States struggle for supremacy upon this continent. It was on the whole a heroic struggle. The outcome of it has been the United States occupying half of North America and Britain the other half. France no longer has any territorial share in the land which she did so much to make known to the world; but her impress has been imperiously left upon it. Canada represents both Britain and France in their historical relations to the Western Hemisphere. It is this Canada which is today receiving recognition.

Surely things can never be quite the same hereafter. The effect of such a salute will not die away with the echoes of the saluting artillery. In a few days "the tumult and the shouting" will die; the representatives of national sovereignty will depart, the smoke-feathers of the warships will disappear far down the St. Lawrence. Above all, there will be no more such a salute. Perhaps we can none of us quite appreciate what it will be; but it is worth remembering that it is out of things tangible that great results come. If the Twentieth Century is to be Canada's, it is highly gratifying that during the first decade of that century Canada as a united Dominion should receive such recognition as is now being demonstrated at Quebec.

"A MAD WORLD, MY MASTERS."
Our esteemed and enterprising contemporary, the Vancouver World, is needlessly vexing its grey matter these fine days with speculation upon the political future of Mr. Richard McBride. It has discovered that, as British Columbia grows more ambitious, that his eagle eye is fixed upon the selection of a residence in the "hoods." With this ambition the World has all that sympathy, which greatly enhances the value of its neighbor's. This sympathy is possibly a little accentuated by the alacrity with which it has sought the political arena. The alleged theatre in which Mr. McBride is to try his fortune is Victoria, where he has been the Conservative candidate for the House of Commons. Of course these honorable ambitions are not to be derided. Mr. McBride is going to resign the provincial premiership and forthwith to be defeated. This is exceedingly interesting; if there was a ghost of a chance that Mr. McBride is out of the city at present, but up to day before yesterday he had not him in his mind as a possible candidate for the seat of the provincial Premier he will be called upon to do during the next few months and looking forward with pleasure to the opportunities open to him to develop a policy for the advancement of his native province. So far as the Colonist has been able to learn, Mr. McBride is of the opinion that the province of British Columbia is a big enough theatre for the efforts of any man, and he is a great deal more anxious to be able to do so. He has done something to make this great province fill the part, which he has designs to play, in the affairs of Canada, and he is to roast half the year and freeze the other half in Ottawa, with any cabin in position that might be available. No one can pretend to say what the future has in store, but we venture the guess that Mr. McBride will be premier of British Columbia when next the provincial elections are held.

The decision of the privy council that British Columbia has full jurisdiction in divorce matters is very satisfactory and removes once for all from the Ottawa authorities a question of grave importance.

The Immigration Department at Ottawa has issued a pamphlet advertising British Columbia. It is pretty near time that the Ottawa authorities realized that something in that line was due this province.

It was a very happy inspiration which seized Mr. Scholefield, the provincial librarian, to select the names of ancient British and Spanish navigators of local waters to designate the streets in the new townsite at Point Grey. The names, in the majority of instances, are very pretty.

HAMBAGS.
The smartest creations ever brought into British Columbia. Fine Crocodile, Alligator, Seal and other Leather Satchels, some with Handkerchiefs, Pocket, card case and Purse, new style Bag, Squaw Bags, "Merry Widow," etc., Velvet and Beaded Bags, Purse, etc. All at popular prices. Every charming model bears the seal of Dame Fashion's approval. A Satchel to harmonize with every smart woman's costume.

Why not give a Bag for a Birthday Gift, or take one home as a souvenir of old Victoria?

CYRUS H. BOWES, Chemist, Government Street
VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Quebec parade must have been an inspiring spectacle. The thank-offerings at the great St. Paul's service at the close of the Pan-Anglican Congress exceeded \$1,500,000. A million was what was expected.

Some enthusiastic people near Seattle propose to build a church that will accommodate a hundred people and do the work in a day and hold a service in it at night after it is finished. If they do this will be a record performance in its way.

The Toronto World draws attention to the fact that Michigan lumbermen are shipping lumber into Canada and underselling the domestic producers. The World calls upon the Canadian millmen to cut their prices, so as to get rid of their surplus stocks and shut out foreign competition.

Reports from all parts of the province are to the effect that crops of all kinds promise an excellent yield. With a record harvest in the northwest, the province must show a very good mining industry flourishing. 1908 will prove a good year for British Columbia, because of the season for salmon and a depression in the lumbering industry.

China is taking hold of the project to establish national steamship lines on the Pacific in a very businesslike fashion. The Chinese say they know of no reason why they should not be as successful in such a venture as the Japanese—an opinion which is well warranted by all the circumstances.

The ruine of Bismarck, said to be the oldest city in the world, are being opened up. Kells nearly seven thousand years ago have been discovered. They indicate great advance in art, especially in sculpture, and the statues, and we are told, were much more fully complete in detail, show that the people were different from any race known to exist within historic times.

City Clerk Chouinard, of Quebec, writes in a newspaper article, is one of the recipients of royal favor. His name has been recommended by St. Michael and St. George. This is an act as eminently proper as it is rare, for it seldom happens that those in a humble station in life are rewarded when they initiate anything really notable.

The very gratifying announcement is made that since the strict enforcement of the Game Act, the Company's has improved very materially. Mr. Bryan Williams, the provincial warden, says that a distinct increase in the quantity of game is noticeable. The provincial government is to be congratulated for its policy in this matter.

A despatch from Dawson says that the final blow against dance halls has been struck. The prohibition of them having been sentenced to thirty days at hard labor. Only the other day the prohibition was being discussed, the Prince charges, loudly proclaimed that there were no dance halls in the city, and now the prohibition is being tried. It would appear that Mr. Pringle has not labored entirely in vain.

The announcement that work is to commence immediately on the extension of the B.C. Electric Company's lines to Ross Bay is very gratifying. The residents in the area which will be reached have waited long for this enterprise. One immediate effect of the decision of the company should be a decided stimulus to the building industry, as many property owners along the line of route have only been awaiting the decision of the company to commence building houses.

President Roosevelt is to review in advance the speech Judge Taft will deliver in his Cincinnati next Tuesday. This is probably the most extraordinary thing that has ever been proposed in the history of United States politics. It is there, after this, any guarantee that in the event of Taft being elected to the White House, he would not be found at his elbow dictating his policy? Nothing more clearly indicates the weakness of Taft than his dependence upon the president for advice as to how he shall conduct his campaign—and we should imagine that the people of the United States would not like this kind of man for the high office for which he has been nominated.

The international beef trust, which has had its tentacles for some time gripped firmly about the business in Great Britain, has scored another victory over those who have been attempting to give the people some measure of relief from its operations. The hopes of those who had advocated the importation into England of Canadian cattle should be dashed by a definite announcement in the British House of Commons that the government has no present intention of proposing legislation removing the prohibition of such importations. Just now the Canadian cattle being fed on Canadian beef are fairly healthy people. But the trusts are greater than common honesty or common sense.

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Plain Tumblers, for ordinary use, per doz. .75¢
A Better Sort, light or heavy, clear glass, per doz. \$1.00
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Over Twenty different designs, 8-piece sets, plain or decorated, from \$1.00

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Our Glass Water Filters secure pure water at the following trifling prices:
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Bedroom Water Bottles and Glasses, a very large assortment, from \$3.50

LEMON SQUEEZERS
Glass Lemon Squeezers, we stock in two sizes at 15¢ and \$1.00

ALSO SEE OUR CUT GLASS ROOM

PRESSED GLASS "LOOKS LIKE CUT GLASS." "A VERY SUPERIOR SORT."

Fruit Bowls, from 25¢
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Salad Bowls, from 25¢

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Candy Trays, from 35¢
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For Cut Glass See Tuesday's Colonist

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ALSO SEE OUR CUT GLASS ROOM

YOU SHOULD SEE OUR CUT GLASS ROOM

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IN A FEW WEEKS many householders will be buying drawing-room and parlor lamps. If you buy now you can take advantage of our off season reduction made on several very handsome lamps, now displayed in our glass department.

Our Lamp Chimneys are specially selected for their strength. The prices are very moderate.

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SOME THINGS

There was one thing. He was a skillful musician, a dier, clever in the and a wise ruler, a rness for his own cruel. He scaled the of human experience had done, and an impressions of to us today, although passed since he died his day, and full of beauty and Omar Kayyam, work. Of recent years with some people the interpretation Doubtless it has left literary records shades in the mean may not be able to by his surroundings runs a thread of the aesthetic of Persian caries ago, and in with the material cal studies. This very marked in whom reference is keep it in mind w his character, and ange. If we make the Psalms of David not because it is is the outpouring ones and absolute some writers that sure; David held the power and the feet men of whose and whose thought what he has to humanity, is certain of the world. The Psalms are not the are for the familiar with the but it has begotten when everybody if more people were they are in the to and at one study of a man of wide- and only a little of the profundity of their aptness to be be surprising. So ready to give with habits one of the Doubtless if any of thoughts with the would commit to the the Psalms, that I spration; he is not claimed for him- it would be by newspaper article tion of poems. Only recently been approached with the more distant ideas, just as we read the Rubaiyat, absolutely. Suppogators digging in and come up with Eighty Psalm, and years, had given for yourself. It while as to what the power and high place in crea again expresses h but in writing this of men and praye the faults of his three. Memories in his mind when ambitions were g through his whole the power and the sides and the she pastures and the Twenty-seven, the tration of confidence of literature. "Tition," he begins, he exclaims in con good courage, and Wait, I say, on that every man has experience. Take distress and sorrow umph in it, and But it is impossible our souls to like things to be found a few of them car so to speak, of the the every former speaks of ness of men; the Almighty. In have what has been it is one that we write upon his teachings, all ex- spirit of his time. One hundred and is worth a treat philosophy. The are unique in all, so many other pla weakness of the w to endeavor to the group to which no ten is equal.

To omit emblo the improvement of our souls, the Psalms is to do modern poet has

"Lives of How to He goes on to t upon the fact that most young people felt the inspirati of epicurean deeds, and to endeavor to the monster creature sublimity of life, commands the a mark out a cour seen by very few